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**Meeting of the Sharlston Parish Council held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> November 2011 at Sharlston Community School at 7.00 p.m.**

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**Present:** Councillor J Goodfellow Councillor B Berry  
Councillor A Devey Councillor K Shingles  
Councillor G Balaam  
Councillor J Cliffe

**101. Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr. P. Loosemore, District Cllr. Taylor, District Cllr. Isherwood

**102. Disclosure of Personal Interest**

No disclosures of interest were made at this time.

**103. Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

The minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> October 2011, were accepted as a true record. (*moved Cllrs..Berry/Shingles*)

**104. Progress Report**

**Parish Council Vacancy**

The clerk reported WMDC had been informed of the vacancy on the Parish Council. Notices had been put on both noticeboards with regard to the vacancy. Debbie Machen had contacted the clerk with regard to becoming a Parish Councillor again.

**Weight restriction – Cow Lane Bridge**

The highways department had been contacted again by the clerk following complaints from several residents about the buses terminating early in the evening, making it difficult for people returning from work. The bus service stops at 6.00 p.m. There is talk that residents are getting a petition organised. The clerk had been sent an e-mail outlining the response from Metro's Bus Service Manager, Neale Wallace. It was said that Metro is seeking a 25% reduction in expenditure across West Yorkshire and that services have to meet a strict value for money criteria. An evening service was not considered cost effective. Metro is investigating if some alternative provision can be provided in the evening by the Community Transport sector. The Parish Council is to be kept informed.

**Long Row**

Contact had been made with Taylor Wimpey. Someone visited the site but could not see a problem. The clerk gave them Cllr. Balaam's contact details and suggested a site visit be arranged with Cllr. Balaam. The clerk also spoke to Taylor Wimpey with regard to the fence on High Street and was told that this would be reinstated in its original position on completion of the site.

**Traffic, The Green**

The clerk had spoken to the Traffic Department at Pontefract with regard to the speed of vehicles using The Green. They agreed that, when available, officers would be sent out to monitor the situation. The clerk had asked to be contacted with feedback once this had taken place.

**Drain, nearest to Car Park**

WMDC had been contacted with regard to this drain, which is full of water already and will overflow with any further rain.

**Tree, Rugby Field**

S. & D. Landscapes have agreed to inspect the tree, which was reported as not thriving. They thought it might be due to lack of watering. It was pointed out at the meeting that this tree had now been vandalised and broken off.

**Hanging Baskets**

Complimentary spring displays will be delivered around early April and maintained until a week or so before summer displays are delivered.

First Impressions are now taking orders for 2012. They are asking for early confirmation of orders as begonia plants take longer to grow and are harder to germinate than the impatiens which were infected with fungus this year.

**Crossley Street Allotments**

After a long delay the site has been inspected by the Enforcement section. They are asking the owner to remove litter and refuse from the site. However, they have no powers to ask him to cut back bushes/trees etc.

**Cricket Club**

A letter has been sent in support of the cricket clubs endeavours to obtain funding for a new pavilion. Eric Ball asked this to be sent in e-mail format.

**105. Ongoing Projects**

<p><b>Library and PCT site</b></p>	<p>Mark Cranmer has forwarded our business plan on.</p>
<p><b>Parish Charter</b></p>	<p>The Parish Charter was signed by all parties at the meeting of the Town &amp; Parish Council Liaison Committee. A copy of the Parish Charter was distributed at this meeting to all councillors.</p>

**106. Grit Bins**

Cllr. Goodfellow reported that the following businesses had agreed to sponsor grit bins: Pharmacy, Rugby Club, General store/fish shop/take-away,

It was decided to order new grit bins through WMDC as they could supply them for £90.00 plus VAT, which was the cheapest quote. Paul Platts had been informed that the Parish Council wished to purchase 9 new bins and the supply of rock salt (in smaller bags, stacked on a pallet). The rock salt would be free of charge.

Existing bins were to be filled by WMDC but any new bins purchased by the PC would have to be kept filled by the PC.

Mr. Wildman, Ings Farm, The Green has agreed to the rock salt being delivered to his land. His son would be willing to keep the new bins filled. A concise record has to be kept of locations where the salt is used and it can only be used on public highways. This record has to be forwarded to Paul Platts at the end of the season.

### **107. The Dam**

Photographs had been sent to the Parish Council by Danny Lees, the volunteer warden, showing the badly damaged seat on the Dam footpath and also the old and broken litter bin in the car park.

Cllr. Goodfellow agreed to have a look at the bench to ascertain whether it could be repaired and prices were also to be obtained for a replacement if needed.

Cllr. Cliffe reported that she had spoken to Martin Womersley regarding the possibility of replacing the bin in the car park with a larger bin, free of charge. The clerk agreed to follow this up. A quote for a new, larger bin had been received from WMDC at £400 plus installation.

### **108. Councillor Attendance**

Details of Councillor's attendance since January 2011 was circulated. Cllr. Goodfellow stressed the need for apologies to be made to the clerk, if any Councillor was unable to attend a meeting.

An e-mail received from Cllr. Loosemore was read to the meeting. He appreciated that he had missed meetings but was hoping that this could be resolved. He asked the Parish Councillors to give him another month to sort things out.

It was reported by the clerk that Councillor Pearson was in danger of the "six month rule" having to be implemented. It was agreed that the clerk would write to Councillor Pearson, outlining this and asking her to attend the next meeting.

### **109. Sharlston Male Voice Choir**

It was agreed that the Parish Council would once again support the Male Voice Choir by being patrons and a cheque for £100.00 was to be sent. (£10.00 per Councillor)

### **110. Remembrance Day**

The councillors agreed on the provision of a poppy wreath to be presented from the Parish Council. The donation for this was to be increased this year to £35.00 (agreed unanimously)

### **111. Plot 3, Fernside Allotments**

It was agreed that a Finance meeting would be called to discuss the possibility of the Parish Council purchasing the remaining plot of allotment land. The precept for 2012 was also to be discussed at that Finance meeting. It was agreed it would be held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2011 at 7.30 p.m. at the Community Centre.

### **112. Planning Applications**

Plans were passed around detailing the application for an extension at 17 Redwood Grove.

Councillors expressed concern about the size of this proposed extension at the front, possibly going over the building line. From the plans it also looked as if the conservatory at the rear of the property was to be made into a permanent room. This may then enable building work in the future to go over this room, therefore making an extension equal to the one on the previous application which had been refused. The clerk was to send a letter to the planning department.

The clerk explained that on the second application, for 289 Weeland Road, the land had already been used for a number of years for this purpose and the owner was now applying for this use to be made lawful. It was explained that the only objection the Parish Council can make is if the Council has proof that this is untrue.

### **113. Planning Decisions**

The decisions listed on appendix B were noted.

### **114. Attendance at Meetings**

Cllrs. Cliffe & Shingles were to attend the Yorkshire Local Councils Association branch meeting on Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllrs. Cliffe, Shingles & Ward were to attend the Remembrance Festival at Wakefield Cathedral on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> November.

Cllr. Goodfellow was attending the Christmas Lights switch-on at Normanton and Featherstone.

### **115. Correspondence**

All correspondence was noted.

It was agreed by all Councillors present that as e-mails were being used for the majority of correspondence now received by the clerk, a correspondence list was no longer required at each meeting. The clerk would continue, to draw the attention of the councillors to any relevant correspondence.

### **116. Accounts**

The following accounts were approved for payment.

To	Details	Amount	Category
Talk Talk	Telephone/Broadband <b>Direct Debit</b>	£26.70	Admin: Telephone charges
Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath	£35.00	S.137
Staples	Stationery	£7.19	Admin: Clerks expenses
Sharlston Male Voice Choir	Donation – Patrons	£100.00	Grants
Janet Hull	Postage/Print cartridge	£40.76	Admin: clerks expenses

**117. Additional Matters**

1. Cllr. Balaam reported that residents in New Charlston were concerned about the sale of parcels of land to travellers. Gates had also been erected on every public footpath across UK Coal land. The meeting with Parish Councillors originally requested by UK Coal had been cancelled. It was agreed that this meeting should be arranged again with some urgency.
  
2. Fly tipping was reported again on Hell Lane. Cllr. Balaam also again mentioned the unsafe wall of the house on Crossley Street (No. 39). Several bricks were loose and in danger of falling and as the house abutted the pavement this could be dangerous to pedestrians.
  
3. Cllr. Cliffe reported that the police were now offering grants of up to £500 for local organisations. This money was from the proceeds of crime.
  
4. Cllr. Cliffe also said she had seen school children walking up Cow Lane to catch the bus in particularly bad weather. She questioned whether the school bus had been re-routed. Cllr. Balaam agreed to look into this.
  
5. Cllr. Cliffe also reported that she had been selected to be a Labour party candidate, in the elections for District Councillors.

**118. Date & Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2011** at 7.00 p.m. at the Community School.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.

Signed ..... Chairman

Date .....